36th

Let's Pretend this isn't the last Friends of Old Time Radio Convention and have a great time Oct 20-23, 2011 at the Ramada Plaza, Newark, NJ (formerly Holiday Inn)



The 4th Revised Ultimate History of

Network Radio Programming and Guide to All Circulating Shows

written by Jay Hickerson, October, 2010 Editor of Hello Again

565-page reference book listing over 6000 network, regional, local and syndicated radio programs. (Soft cover and spiral bound). This information was first presented in this combined format in 1992 with separate publications issued in 1986.

Traces each program by giving broadcast dates, sponsors, network and air time. Often a brief description with one or two cast members is given. The main purpose, however, is to trace each program by showing when it was on the air.

Includes theme music titles if known. <u>Most complete source</u> available.

<u>Lists ALL shows available to collectors. Exact dates and sources</u> are mentioned in most cases.

Includes All Information AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2011 Including Supplement #1

Cost: \$56 plus \$5 postage and handling (\$46 for previous buyers plus \$5)

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SPECIAL GUESTS

ARTHUR ANDERSON – Mercury Theater on the Air; Let's Pretend

TOM BAHLER - (Singer, Composer, Arranger and Producer) "Julie, Do Ya Love Me" "She's Out of My Life"

DIANA CANOVA - Daughter of Judy Canova; costarred in TV series "Soap," Broadway musicals "They're Playing Our Song" and Stephen Sondheim's "Company

CLIFF CARPENTER – County Seat, Prairie Folk RICH CONATY – New York DJ, specializing in early music of the 1890's – 1930's

CHRISTINA BRITTON CONROY – Daughter of Barbara Britton; voiceover, radio and theater actress; music psychotherapist

LARRY CONROY - Count of Monte Cristo; Voiceover Coach

IVAN CURY - Bobby Benson; Portia Faces Life
DELICATES, THE - "Murray the K's Original
Dancing Girls," "Submarine Race Watcher's" Theme,
"Black and White Thunderbird," "Meusurry"

PAUL EVANS – (Singer, composer) "Seven Little Girls Sitting in the Back Seat"

JOE FRANKLIN – Joe Franklin Radio and TV Show in New York

KATHY GARVER – Whispering Streets; Heartbeat Theater (TV) Family affair

BOB GIBSON – former news correspondent ABC and NBC Radio, and voice-over artist

MICHAEL C. GWYNNE - Actor, radio announcer, Movie and TV guest star - PAYDAY, PRIVATE PARTS and many more

PATRICIA HERD; Theater, movie and TV actress RICHARD HERD - Theater 5; (TV) Seinfeld, T J Hooker

RUSSELL HORTON - Many CBS Radio Mystery Theater

PAT HOSLEY – A Brighter Day WILL HUTCHINS – (TV) Blondie; Sugarfoot

ELAINE HYMAN – The Lone Ranger SIMON JONES British Actor (TV) Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

RUTH LAST - Let's Pretend, Quiet Please (TV, movies)

GEORGE LEFFERTS – Writer (X – 1) **PEG LYNCH** – Ethel and Albert

BOBB LYNES – 30-year career in Los Angeles Radio GLORIA MCMILLAN – Our Miss Brooks

CORINNE ORR – Theater Five; CBS Radio Mystery Theater; (TV) Voices for Speed Racer; Trixie and Spritle; many commercials

BOBBY RAMSEN – Let's Pretend, Dick Tracy (also TV and movie actor; comedian)

CLIVE RICE – Bobby Benson
LYNNE ROGERS – The Guiding Light
JIM ROSIN – Actor, Writer (TV) and author of several
TV books

JEAN ROUVEROL – One Man's Family KEVIN SCULLIN – TV, voiceover artist NEIL SHEPPARD–Songwriter; singer, arranger, producer

IESLIE SHREVE – Actress, Activist, television, Movies, voiceovers

STUFFY SINGER – Jack Benny, Hal Peary show JAY STERN – Director of Quicksilver Radio Theater BARBARA WATKINS – 30-year career in Los Angeles Radio

CRAIG WICHMAN – All Media; Founder of Quicksilver Radio Theater

RELATIVES

JANET CANTOR GARI – Eddie Cantor's
Daughter
DIANA CANOVA – Daughter of Judy Canova
BOB DANIEL – Grandson of Brace Beemer
FRAN FOY – Widow of Fred Foy
WENDY FOY GRIFFIS – Daughter of Fred Foy
BRIAN GARI – Eddie Cantor's grandson
GREGG OPPENHEIMER – son of Jess
Oppenheimer

COMIC ARTISTS

SAL AMENDOLA RICHARD AYERS MICHAEL KALUTA DENNIS O'NEIL

AUTHORS

ARTHUR ANDERSON - Let's Pretend
JACK FRENCH - Private Eyelashes
JIM GAUTHIER - Various books
JANET GARI - Book about her mother
MARTIN GRAMS, JR. - many books
BOBB LYNES - Radio's Golden Age
JIM MANAGO - Shirley Booth
GREGG OPPENHEIMER (with father Jess) - Lucille
Ball
LYNNE ROGERS - How to be a Working Actor
JIM ROSIN - Author of several TV books
DAVE SIEGEL AND SUSAN SIEGEL - Several
Books
MEL SIMONS - Radio Trivia Book with Pictures;
Television and other Trivia Books
GARY YOGGY - Various books

This Convention is dedicated to Fred Foy, Clay Cole, Margot Stevenson, Margaret Whiting, Charlie Callas, Danny Stiles

SCHEDULE - 2011

Wednesday: Dealers tables and possibly sound equipment set up at night Complimentary Wine and cheese from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Thursday

Dealers Rooms 9 am - 5:30 pm

11:00 - 12:00 - Gary Yoggy will present the "real lowdown" on WALTER WINCHELL: Newscaster or Gossip Monger?"

12:15 - 1:15 OTR Historians Panel with Derek Tague, presenting

OTR & Vitaphone.

1:30 - 3:00 Authors Panel with Arthur Anderson, Jim Manago; Jim Rosin, Ben Ohmart, Martin Grams, Jr.; hosted by Mel Simons (All authors who wrote Radio-related books since our last convention are welcome).

3:15 - 4:15 - Michael Biel - Ed Wynn's Amalgamated Broadcasting

System

4:30 – 5:30 - One on One with Ben Ohmart with Arthur Anderson

5:30 - 8:00 - Cocktails and Dinner; raffle

8:00 - 8:30 - Those Were the Days Radio Players present Easy Aces "Jane Serves on a Jury" starring Michael C Gwynne and the "Those Were the Days" players directed by Randy Larson

8:45 - 9:15 - Jay Stern with Craig Wichman presents: Escape "King of the Beasts" - original script by Michael Murphy; with Christina Britton Conroy, Larry Conroy, Michael Gwynne, Bobb Lynes, Kevin Scullin and

Craig Wichman.

9:30 - 10:00 - Jay Stern with Craig Wichman presents: Theater 5 "The Widow"; with Michael Gwynne, Will Hutchins, Elaine Hyman, Bobb Lynes, Corinne Orr, Barbara Watkins, and Craig Wichman. (Special thanks to Bill Nadel.)

Friday Morning and Afternoon

Dealers Rooms: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

9:00 - 10:00 - The Big Broadcast with Rich Conaty and Bob Madison 10:15 - 11:15 - Best of the West (Jack French)

11:30 - 12:30 - Anthony Tollin reminisces with Video Clips of past guests

1:00 – 2:15 - Martin Grams, Jr; Researching the History of Cavalcade of America

2:45 - 4:15 - "Funnies Friday: OTR and the Comics" (9th annual "Funny Friday" Comedy panel), hosted by Maggie Thompson and James Gauthier, with Sal Amendola, Michael Kaluta, Dick Ayers, Danny O'Neil, comic artists

4:45 - 5:30 - (Recreation) THE DAVE WARREN PLAYERS with episodes of 2 of the first shows ever performed by the group: I Love a Mystery and Tom Mix

Friday Evening

5:30 - 8:15 - Cocktails and Dinner, raffle

8:30 - 9:15 - Any Bonds Today" episode "Radio Goes To War" written and directed by Edgar Farr Russell, III and starring Arthur Anderson, Cliff Carpenter, Christina Britton Conroy, Larry Conroy, Ivan Cury, Bob Gibson, Russell Horton, Pat Hosley, Will Hutchins, Simon Jones, Randy Larson, Bobb Lynes, Clive Rice, Lynne Rogers, Jean Rouverol, Frazier N.S. Russell, , leslie Shreve, Barbara Watkins, Craig Wichman, Gary Yoggy, and Dave Zwengler.

9:30 - 10:00- Anthony Tollin directs an episode of Gunsmoke "Bloody Hands" by John Meston; starring Michael C Gwynne as Matt Dillon; with Will Hutchins, Elaine Hyman, Richard Herd, Ivan Cury, Clive Rice and

Kathy Garver

10:15- 10:30 A special presentation by Walt Mitchell

Saturday Morning and Afternoon

Dealers Rooms: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

8:45 – 9:45 - Lone Ranger panel with Fran Foy and Wendy Foy Griffis, hosted by Terry Salomonson; with Jim Nixon and Bob Daniel, grandson of Brace Beemer

10:00 11:00 Children on Radio with George Downes; Guests so far: Arthur Anderson, Pat Hosley, Kathy Garver, Stuffy Singer, Gloria

McMillan

11:15 - 12:00 - The Gotham Radio Players present a recreation of a lost 1939 episode of LIGHTS OUT: "The Giggler". Produced by Max Schmid, directed by Steven M. Lewis

12:15 – 1:00; "The Funniest Radio Bloopers and Out takes" - Gregg

Oppenheimer

1:15 – 2:15 - The Joe Franklin Show with special Guests; Diana

Canova, George Lefferts

2:45 - 4:15 - Singers, musicians and Big Bands, 15th annual (hosted by Stu Weiss and Brian Gari); Tom Bahler, Paul Evans, The Delicates, Neil

Sheppard

4:30 - 5:15 - (Re-creation) Let's Pretend "Jack and the Beanstalk" - directed by Arthur Anderson with Pat Hosley, leslie Shreve, Larry Conroy, Christina Britton Conroy, Ivan Cury, Bobby Ramsen, Ruth Last, Bobb Lynes, Katie Summers

Saturday Evening

5:30 - 8:30 - Cocktails and Dinner, raffle, awards

8:30 - 9:00 - PHIL HARRIS/ALICE FAYE SHOW ("Phil is Appointed an Hon. Col. in the Confederate Army") starring Richard Herd and Gloria McMillan with Bobby Ramsen, Will Hutchins, Corinne Orr, Stuffy Singer, Patricia Herd, Kathy Garver, Ivan Curry, Clive Rice,

Craig Wichman; directed by Gary Yoggy

9:15 - 9:45 - (Re-creation) "My Favorite Husband" (with Diana Canova, Simon Jones, Richard Herd, Patricia Herd, Gloria McMillan, Michael C. Gwynne, Leslie Shreve, Elaine Hyman, Arthur Anderson, Stuffy Singer, Bobb Lynes and Ron Cocking) - directed by Gregg Oppenheimer

10:00 - 10:15 - Closing music with Karen and Jay Hickerson

Sunday Morning

7:00 - 9:30 - Breakfast in the restaurant

9:30 - 11:00 - Informal Panel in the Dresden Room

OTHER INFORMATION

Ascot Room will be available much of the time from Thursday through Saturday night. It should be used for interviews, meetings and readings.

- 1. No smoking in convention area and any other place on main floor. This means NO SMOKING in halls and near registration area.
- 2. Do not interview in hallways and please do not congest the registration area. Interviews are to be held in the Ascot room mentioned above.
- 3. Interviews and autographs are NOT to be gotten in the workshop rooms after the workshops. Use Ascot Room. We must get ready for the next workshop.
 - 4. Complimentary coffee and muffins will be available early Thursday Saturday mornings.
- 5. All of the sessions are being video recorded by Satellite Media Production. You may order them as a complete set or by individual sessions. Please contact Fred Berney at Satellite Media Production, P.O. Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793-0638. Phone 800-747-0856. E-mail: fsberney@verizon.net.
- **6.** You can get information on the Friends of Old-time Radio Convention on our Web Site: FOTR Web site: http://www.fotr.net

COMMITTEE AND WORKSHOP LEADERS

GENERAL CHAIRMAN:

Jay Hickerson

PROGRAM AND RE-CREATION DIRECTORS:

Anthony Tollin, Gary Yoggy, Max

Schmid, Steve Lewis, Gregg Oppenheimer, Jay Stern with Craig Wichman, Randy Larson, Arthur

Anderson, Edgar Russell, III

MUSIC COORDINATOR

PUBLICITY: WEB SITE

CONVENTION GUEST COORDINATOR

SOUND ENGINEER SOUND EFFECTS

COVER AND FLYER

COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET

Mike Mandel

Sean Dougherty, Charles Summers

Jeff Muller Bill Siudmak

Bart Curtis
Bob Burchett

Martin Grams, Jr.

ALL OTHERS INCLUDING PANEL LEADERS:

Dave and Susan Siegel

Michael and Leah Biel

Jack French

Derek Tague Fred and Ellen Berney

Fred Shay

George Downes.

Stu Weiss

Paul Mellos

Mary Lou Wallace

Craig Wichman

Walt Mitchell

Frazier Russell

Martin Grams

Jim Gauthier Bob Madison Sue Zizza

Karen Hickerson

Alice Anderson

Joe Franklin

Arlene Maher

Ken Stockinger

Lora Palmer

Brian Gari

Dave Zwengler

Judi Reynolds

Neal Ellis

Walt Muller

Mel Simons

Maggie Thompson

Terry Salomonson

DEALERS

Waterford Room

Rich Conaty Bob Daniel The Delicates **Patrick Dunne Paul Evans** The Fred Foy Table **Bob Gardner Kathy Garver** Richard Herd Jerry Randolph Jim Rosin **Stephanie Joyce Kahn Foundation** Veteran's Bedside Network

DEALERS

Conference Rooms

Abaton Radio Theater...2
Satellite Media Productions. (Fred Berney)...5
Larry Caffin...7

Eddie Cantor Appreciation Society (Brian Gari)...1

Alex and Dawn Daoundakis...2

Neal Ellis (Radio Once More)...1

Brendan Faulkner...8

FOTR (Books)...1

Leo Gawroniak...3

Charles Gilkie...2

Martin Grams, Jr....3

Jay Hickerson...1

Jim Manago...7

Bill McMahon...7

Ben Ohmart..3

Frank Oviatt...8

Radio Spirits...6

Michael Weiss...2

Art Zimmerman...1

BIOS OF NEW GUEST STARS

Prepared by Gary Yoggy

SAL AMENDOLA

Sal Amendola, born 1948 in Italy, is an Italian-American comic book artist and teacher primarily known for his association with DC Comics.

Amendola started his comics career in 1969, drawing stories for editor Dick Giordano's The Witching Hour, and becoming Giordano's assistant editor in 1970. At DC, Amendola worked in the production department, where he did coloring, inking, lettering, and page headings. He provided artwork on such series as Batman, Green Arrow, and John Carter, Warlord of Mars.

Amendola left DC for Marvel Comics in 1972, where, as an associate editor, he worked on letters pages, coloring, and backgrounds. Unhappy at Marvel, Amendola soon returned to DC, where he drew Batman again. Amendola eventually became an editor and talent coordinator at DC, where he stayed until 1986. He inked Curt Swan's pencils on the comic book adaptation of Superman III in 1983.

In the mid-1970s, Amendola wrote and drew for Archie comics; he has also done storyboard art for movies. Amendola began teaching at New York's School of Visual Arts in 1974, and later on at the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art. In 1988, he joined the faculty of the Fashion Institute of Technology.

DICK AYERS

Dick Ayers published his first comic strip Radio Ray, in the military newspaper Radio Post in 1942 while serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II. In 1947, Ayers studied under Burne Hogarth in the first class of Hogarth's new institution, New York City's Cartoonists and Illustrators School. (renamed the School of Visual Arts in 1956). Ayers went on to pencil and ink Western stories in the late 1940s for Magazine Enterprises' A-1 Comics and Trail Colt, and for Prize Comics' Prize Comics Western. With writer Ray Krank, Ayers created the horror-themed Western character Ghost Rider in Tim Holt #11 (1949). The character appeared in stories through the run of Tim Holt, Red Mask, A-1 Comics, Bobby Benson's B-Bar-B Riders, and the 14-issue solo series the Ghost Rider (1950-1954), up through the introduction of the Comics Code. After the trademark to the character's name and motif lapsed, Marvel Comics debuted its own near-identical, horror-free version of the character in Ghost Rider #1 (Feb. 1967), by writers Roy Thomas and Gary Friedrich and original Ghost Rider artist Ayers.

In 1952, while continuing to freelance for Magazine Enterprises, Ayers began a long freelance run at Atlas Comics, the 1950s forerunner of Marvel Comics. He drew horror stories in such titles as Adventures into Terror, Astonishing, Journey into Mystery, Journey into Unknown Worlds, Menace, Mystery Tales, Mystic, Strange Tales, and Uncanny Tales. As well, he drew the brief revival of the 1940s Golden Age of Comics superhero the Human Torch, from Marvel's 1940s predecessor Timely Comics, in Young Men # 21-24 (June 1953 - Feb. 1954). An additional, unpublished Human Torch story drawn by Ayers belatedly appeared in Marvel Super-Heroes #16 (Sept. 1968). During the 1950s, Ayers also drew freelance for Charlton Comics, including for the horror comic The Thing and the satirical series Eh!/

Ayers first teamed with penciler Jack Kirby at Atlas shortly before the company transitioned to become Marvel Comics. As the comic-book legend's second regular Marvel inker, following Christopher Rule, Ayers would ink countless Kirby covers and stories, including on such landmark comics as most of the earliest issues of The Fantastic Four, in addition to a slew of Western and "pre-

superhero Marvel" monster stories in Amazing Adventures, Journey into Mystery, Strange Tales, Tales of Suspense, and Tales to Astonish. Because creator credits were not routinely given at the time, two standard databases disagree over the duo's first published collaboration: The Grand Comics Database cites the cover of Wyatt Earp #24 (Aug. 1959), which Atlas Tales lists as inked by George Klein. Grand Comics Database tentatively lists Ayers as inker of the Kirby cover for that same month's Strange Tales #70, for which Atlas Tales credits Ayers without qualification.

Ayers went on to ink scores of Kirby Western and monster stories, including such much-reprinted tales as "I Created The Colossus!" (Tales of Suspense #14, Feb 1961), as well as two stories in the first comic book formally published by the newly christened Marvel Comics, Amazing Adventures #3 (Aug. 1961). As Marvel introduced its superheroes in the early 1960s, Ayers inked Kirby on the first appearances of Ant-Man (Tales to Astonish #27 & 35, Jan & Sep 1962), Sgt. Fury and His Howling Commandos (issues #1-3, May-Sept 1963) and the revamped Rawhide Kid (beginning with The Rawhide Kid #17, Aug. 1960); on the second and several subsequent early appearances of Thor (Journey into Mystery #84-89, Sep 1962 - Feb. 1963), plus others; on Fantastic Four #6-20 (Sept. 1962 - Nov. 1963), and the spin off Human Torch solo series in Strange Tales (starting with its debut in issue #101); and on some early issues of The Incredible Hulk, among other series.

During the late 1980s, Ayers drew at least one edition of the promotional comic-book series TRS-80 Computer Whiz Kids: Alec and Shanna, alternately titled The Tandy Computer Whiz Kids: Alec and Shanna, published by Archie Comics for Radio Shack. The comics worked in references to a multitude of Radio Shack products. Ayers, inked by Chic Stone, drew the cover and the 28-page main story, written by Paul Kupperberg, for The Tandy Computer Whiz Kids: The Computers That Said No to Drugs Edition (March 1985).

Ayers' work continued into the 2000s, including pencil work on The Song of Mykal in 2001, and The Uncanny Dave Cockrum...A Tribute in 2004. In 2007 he worked on Doris Danger Seeks Where Urban Creatures Creep and Stomp!, The 3-Minute Sketchbook and The Invincible Iron Man. He penciled and lettered Femforce vs The Claw in 2002 and Femforce Features: Giantess in 2004, and penciled, inked and lettered Gunslingers in 2000 and Chips Wilde: The Wild One! in 2005.

TOM BAHLER

Tom Bahler is known for his early work with Jan Berry (of Jan and Dean). Later Tom and his brother John were vocalists in the Ron Hicklin Singers. Together with the Wrecking Crew, the Bahlers have sung, produced, and arranged hundreds of worldwide hits. Most notably Tom and his brother John (along with Ron Hicklin and Jackie Ward) were featured background voices on The Partridge Family recordings in the 1970s.

John and Tom tried their hand with their own band The Love Generation which was not a great success. They made three records as a band. The last record, "Montage," is considered to be a project just by John and Tom. As session vocalists for The Partridge Family the brother re-recorded the Screen Gems - published song "Let the Good Times In" for the series pilot episode, which they had originally recorded for their debut "Love Generation" album in a slightly different arrangement. The Partridge version of the song remained a heavily sought after unreleased track until it appeared officially for the first time ever on the group's "The Very Best Of" CD which was released in 2005.

After The Love Generation, John and Tom joined The Going Thing, a band which was devised by the advertising agency J. Walter Thompson (now known as JWT) to promote the products of the Ford Motor Company. Tom appeared on Ford's 1969 "Going Thing" television commercial. As John and Tom were given great freedom and a steady income, this may be the place where they learned to arrange and produce songs.

DIANA CANOVA

Diana Canova (born June 1, 1953, in West Palm Beach, FL) is an American actress best known for her role of promiscuous daughter Corinne Tate on Soap, a sitcom that parodied soap operas, between 1977 and 1980. Born Diane Canova Rivero, her professional surname is the maiden name of her mother, actress and singer Judy Canova. She was raised in the Greater Los Angeles

Area, where she graduated from Hollywood High School.

In 1980, ABC executives offered Canova her own television series, starring alongside Danny Thomas in I'm a Big Girl Now. The show lasted just one season. Canova's acting career entered a slump until she was cast as Sandy Beatty in Throb! a successful sitcom which was broadcast in syndication from 1986 to 1988. She played "Jenny" in a revival of Stephen Sondheim's musical Company in 1995.

For the most part, Canova has retired from acting and is living in Connecticut. Her last role was in the 1998 movie One True Thing. She occasionally voices for cartoons in video shorts but now mostly works on various plays in Redding, CT for local public schools

RICH CONATY

Richard b. "Rich" Conaty (born November 30, 1954) is a New York City disc jockey, who was originally from Astoria, NY. He is an important figure in FM broadcasting of jazz and popular music of the 1920s and 1930s.

Conaty hosts his weekly music radio show, "The Big Broadcast," on Fordham University's FM radio station, WFUV, in the Bronx, NY. The show features jazz and popular music recordings from the 1890s through the 1930s. Conaty founded "The Big Broadcast" when he was a freshman at Fordham University in January 1973. In 1983, he was hired by program director Jim Lowe at WNEW-AM, where he worked weekends, and briefly filled in as host of the radio show, "Make Believe Ballroom," made famous by William B. Williams. Conaty was Jonathan Schwartz's co-host on "New York Tonight."

Conaty brought "The big Broadcast" and his Saturday program, "The Big Bandstand," to WQEW in December 1992

In July 1997, Conaty brought his shows back to WFUV. It airs live every Sunday from 8pm-12 midnight (ET) and streams live on the internet.

THE DELICATES

The Delicates were formed in Belleville, NJ in 1958, when three classmates of Belleville Elementary School - Denise Ferri, Arleen Lanzotti and Peggy Santiglia – decided to form a vocal trio. The name "Delicates" was chosen because Denise's parents owned a DELICATESsen!

By the time they were in the eighth grade they were already recording artists who also were an integral part of the most popular rock and roll radio show in NYC.

The Delicates were introduced to the legendary DJ Murray Kaufman and became his original "Dancing Girls." They became regulars on his radio show on 1010 WINS, NYC, and were asked by Murray himself to write and record themes for his show. In addition to writing and recording Murray's opening and closing themes, the Delicates also wrote and recorded his legendary "Submarine Race Watcher's" Theme and co-wrote (with Murray) and recorded his immortal "Meusurry" song, inspired by a language created by Murray himself. The girls were with Murray during his transition from "Murray Kaufman" to "Murray The K" and remained with him for four years.

The Delicates also appeared on many of the TV shows devoted to rock and roll music of the day including American Bandstand, Alan Freed's "Big Beat," The Clay Cole Show, Rate the Record, Connecticut Bandstand, The Buddy Deane Show and Joe Franklin's "Memory Lane." Onstage they performed as part of Murray the K's holiday shows at the Brooklyn Fox and the

Brooklyn Paramount Theaters, the State Theater in Connecticut, the Commack Long Island Arena and Palisades Park in NJ. The girls also toured with Clay Cole's Twist-a Rama review, replacing the Ronettes.

The Delicates were unique in that they wrote most of the songs that they recorded. One special song written and recorded by the girls was "Black and White Thunderbird" for United Artist. It was released in June 1959 and, because of major airplay, it became a significant hit in the New York metropolitan area and other East Coast locations. The song is much-loved by girl group aficionados even today. After some 48 years, "Black and White Thunderbird" was chosen by Disney/Pixar for inclusion on a CD entitled "Lightning McQueen's Fast Tracks," which was inspired by the smash movie "Cars." That CD made the Top 10 on Billboard Magazine's Kids' Audio Chart. The song was also chosen by the same Disney producer, Fred Mollin, to become part of a second CD entitled "Buddy Songs."

In the late 50s and early 60s the Delicates did lucrative backup work for many big name artists including Connie Francis, Neil Sedaka, Al Martino, Steve Lawrence, Teddy Randazzo and Don Costa. Then they teamed up with Bernadette Carroll of "Party Girl" fame to do additional backup work throughout the 60s for singers including Frankie Valli, Patty Duke, Kitty Kallen, Frankie Lymon and Bobby Herb. However the girls are most noted for their backup singing on Lou Christie's MGM recordings including his #1 hit "Lightning Strikes," "Rhapsody in the Rain," "Trapeze" and many others. The Delicates still perform today.

PATRICIA HERD

Patricia Herd began her career in Texas at the Alley Theatre and Margo Jones Theatre. She performed in "The Drunkard" in Las Vegas (three shows a night for six weeks.) For ten years she worked and taught with the mother of improvisation, Viola Spolin. Her theatre credits include "Suddenly Last Summer," "The Crucible," "Ten Times Table," "The Chisholm Trail Went Through Here" and "Death of a Salesman," (Drama Logue Award.) Film and TV credits include, "Bird," "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" both directed by Clint Eastwood, "A Streetcar Names Desire" with Alec Baldwin and Jessica Lange, "The Ghost Whisperer," the animation series "The Wild Thornberies" and several radio dramas with California Artists Radio theatre. She is married to actor Richard Herd and has two adult step-sons.

MICHAEL KALUTA

Michael William Kaluta, sometimes credited as Mike Kaluta or Michael Wm. Kaluta (born August 25, 1947), is an American comic book artist and writer. Kaluta's early work included a 3-page adventure story, "The Battle of Shiraz," in Charlton Comics Flash Gordon, issue #6 and an adaptation of Edgar Rice Burroughs' Venus novels for DC. Kaluta's influences and style are drawn from pulp illustrations of the 1930s and the turn of the century poster work of Alphonse Mucha – his signature motif is elaborate decorative panel designs – rather than the silver age comics of the 1960s. Kaluta has worked rarely with the superhero genre. Associated during the 1970s with Bernie Wrightson and Jeffrey Jones he also contributed illustrations to Ted White's Fantastic and Amazing. He is known for his work on the series Starstruck and The Shadow. He co-created Eve, the horror host turned The Sandman supporting character.

Kaluta was one of the four comic book artists/fine illustrator/painters who formed the artists' commune The Studio in a loft in Manhattan's Chelsea district from 1975 to 1979. His Studio colleagues were Barry Windsor-Smith, Jeffery Jones, and Bernie Wrightson. Aside from many comic books and covers Kaluta has done a wide variety of book illustrations.

In 1984 he not only drew the illustrations for but directed the music video of The Alan Parsons Project song "Don't Answer Me," which became one of the most requested videos of the year on cable video channel MTV in America.

Among music fans, Kaluta is known as the artist for the cover of Glenn Danzig's instrumental album Black Aria and for the interior illustrations of Danzig's fourth album, the latter of which appeared in 1994 and 1995 as a pendent sold at Danzig concerts, and on Danzig T-shirts and sweaters produced in the same period. Kaluta also created the CD covers and interior booklet illustrations for Nativity in Black I and II, tribute albums to the music of Black Sabbath.

Kaluta has also worked for role-playing game companies such as White Wolf. He has done artwork for collectible card games companies, including a comic book for Wizards of the Coast's Magic: The Gathering and Illustrating cards on Last Unicorn Games' Heresy: Kingdom Come.

His work has won him a good deal of recognition, including the Shazam Award for Outstanding New Talent in 1971 and the 2003 Spectrum Grandmaster Award.

In the early 1990s, he was active in Compuserve's Macintosh Gaming Forum, in the flight simulator enthusiast group which called itself VFA-13 Shadow Riders. He contributed a number of designs for airplane nose art and flight suit unit patches.

DENNIS O'NEIL

Dennis J. "Denny" O'Neil (born May 3, 1939, in St. Louis, Missouri) is an American comic book writer and editor, principally for Marvel Comics and DC Comics in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, and Group Editor for the Batman family of books until his retirement

His best-known works include Green Lantern/Green Arrow and Batman with Neal Adams, The Shadow with Mike Kaluta and The Question with Denys Cowan, all of which were hailed for their sophisticated stories that expanded the artistic potential of the mainstream portion of the medium. As an editor, he is principally known for editing the various Batman titles. Today, he sits on the board of directors of the charity The Hero Initiative.

O'Neil graduated from St. Louis University around the turn of the 1960s with a degree centered on English literature, creative writing and philosophy. From there he joined the U.S. Navy just in time to participate in the blockade of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis. After leaving the Navy, O'Neil moved on to a job with a newspaper in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. O'Neil wrote occasional columns on the subject for the newspaper, which attracted the attention of Roy Thomas, who would eventually himself become one of the great names in the history of the medium.

When Roy Thomas left DC Comics to work for Stan Lee at Marvel Comics he suggested that O'Neil take the Marvel writer's test, which involved adding dialogue to a wordless four-page excerpt of a Fantastic Four comic; and O'Neil's entry impressed Lee enough to offer him a job.

The available jobs writing for Marvel petered out fairly quickly, and O'Neil took a job with Charlton Comics under the pseudonym of Sergius O' Shaugnessy. There he received regular work for a year and a half from Charlton's editor Dick Giordano.

In 1968 Dick Giordano was offered an editorial position at DC Comics and took a number of Charlton freelancers with him, including O'Neil. Charlton talent arrived at DC from a different culture of comics. At DC, the office seemed like a snapshot from 1950, with a crowd of short-haired men in white shirts and ties. The jeans-wearing, hippy trended Charlton crowd visibly represented a different generation.

O'Neil's first assignments involved two strategies for bolstering DC's sales. One approach centered on the creation of new characters, and O'Neil scripted several issues of Beware the Creeper, a series starring a new hero, The Creeper, created by Artist Steve Ditko. From there, DC moved O'Neil to Wonder Woman and Justice League of America. With artist Mike Sekowsky, he took away Wonder Woman's powers, exiled her from the Amazon community, and set her off, uncostumed, into international intrigues with her blind mentor, the dubiously-named I Ching. These changes did not sit well with Wonder Woman's older fans, such as Gloria Steinem, and O'Neil later considered that de-powering DC's most well-known superheroine might have alienated readers. In Justice League, he had more success, introducing into that title the first socially and politically themed stories, setting the stage for later work on Green Lantern/Green Arrow.

Following the lead set by Bob Haney and Neal Adams in a Brave and the Bold story that visually redefined Green Arrow into the vision that appeared in comics between 1969 and 1986, O'Neil stripped him of his wealth and playboy status, making him an urban hero. This redefinition would culminate in the character that appeared in Green Lantern/Green Arrow, (with many stories also drawn by Adams) a socially conscious, left-wing creation that effectively took over Green Lantern's book to use him as a foil and straw man in sounding out the political concepts that would define that work. O'Neil went on to write Green Lantern for the balance of the 1970s, leaving the title in 1980 to return to Marvel Comics.

O'Neils 1970s run on the Batman titles is perhaps his best-known endeavor, getting back to the character's darker roots after a period dominated by the campiness of the 1960s TV series, emphasizing Batman's detective skills, and introducing new villains such as his own creation Ra's al Ghul. During this period, O'Neil frequently teamed up with his regular collaborator Adams (with Giordano often assisting on inks) on a number of memorable issues of both Batman and Detective Comics.

Upon O'Neil's return to Marvel Comics in 1980, he took on the scripting chores for The Amazing Spider-Man, which he did for two years. He was the regular scripter for Iron Man from 1982-1986, and Daredevil, from 1983-1985. O'Neil's run on Daredevil ostensibly bridged the gap between when Frank Miller left the title and then returned for a memorable short run with David Mazzucchelli as artist.

O'Neil has written several novels, comics, short stories, reviews and teleplays, including the novelizations of the films Batman Begins and The Dark Knight. Under the pseudonym Jim Dennis, O'Neil scripted a series of novels about a kung fu character named Richard Dragon, and later adapted those novels to comic book form for DC. O'Neil wrote a weekly column for ComixMix until October 2008.

O'Neil spent several years in the late nineties teaching a Writing for the Comics course at Manhattan's School of visual Arts, sometimes sharing duties with fellow comic book writer John Ostrander.

NEIL SHEPPARD (Prepared by Brian Gari)

Born in Montreal Canada and came to New York in 1959 and within 6 months, Patti Page recorded one of his 1st songs written at age 12 called "Nobody." In 1963 his talent was recognized by Bob Mersey at Columbia Records who produced his first single. By 1966 he signed with Musicor Records & wrote songs & did sessions with Gene Pitney who did "Building Up My Dream World," "Turnaround" and "Heaven Held", which was also cut by Bobby Vee, The Lettermen & The Cowsills (who also recorded "Grey Sunny Day.")

In 1967 "Let's Call It A Day Girl" by the Razors Edge was a top 5 number and a #1 record in Miami, Montreal, Buffalo, and many other US cities & in Canada with Andy Williams covering the B side called "April."

In 1968 Neil had a song called "The Very First Kid on My Block" by the Banana Splits and on the animated Hanna Barbera series The Sunday Funnies (which still runs on TV to this day!) He also penned "New In Town" for Gary Lewis & "It's Time That You Settled Down" for Herbie Mann & Tamiko Jones.

At this time he also wrote the title song and some special material for 2 award winning TV documentaries for David Wolper: "The World of Horses with Lorne Green" and "Do Blondes Have More Fun." Meanwhile The Everly Brothers cut "Heaven Help Me a.k.a Devils Child!

Back in Montreal Neil Signed a deal with Polydor Records and produced an LP called Life. The single "Hands Of The Clock" was immediately a top 5 chart record in Canada and made the Billboard charts in the US! It won Neil a BMI Songwriter's Award in 1969.

1970 to 1976 Neil moved to England and recorded as an artist for RCA with the London Philharmonic, John Entwhistle, Peter Frampton, Herbie Flowers, Jim Gordon and Davey Johnston. He wrote songs for Tim Hardin, John Baldry and worked with Cat Stevens!

In 1979 Neil moved back to New York doing commercials. He sang Ballpark Franks They Plump When You Cook Em, Coke Adds Life Disco Version, Pierre Cardin Men's Cologne, Today is Too Important to Wear Anything Else and many more. His major works included IBM Christmas and a General Electric piece, but he wrote hundreds of national spots from Brooklyn Unions NYC & Arrid Extra Dry to New Freedom Mini Pads, Schlitz Light Radio Spot & The Train-- 6 individual stories about beer on a train which he wrote and sang. He wrote TV ID Package for Gannett Media which was nationally syndicated in major market TV stations across the country customized for each station with special lyrics & new vocals for each. The package consisted of two full length songs "Look At Us, & It's All Right Here on channel 9".... then, "On Channel 5," 2, 8, and so on! The package was 52 individual pieces of music for news, movie, and weather, openings, closings, and bumpers, plus a morning greeting and evening close etc. The package was played on nationally syndicated stations for 3 to 4 years for some stations, and was on air 24/7 in major market territories across the US.

At the same time, Tony Orlando recorded 3 more songs, Jackie Maclean did a disco jazz single called "Dr. Jackyll & Mister Funk," The Fatback Band recorded "Let Me Do it To You" & "Hesitation." Penthouse Magazine produced a Disco Hit "Let Me be Your Fantasy" a chart single & LP with "Love In Public Places."



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